(b) if so, whether the full Planning Commission met in the month of June to discuss the issue of State Finance Ministers and has decided to consider bilateral ways to assist States; and

(c) if so,the major discussions and to what extent the Planning Commission has come to the conclusion of helping States finances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) A meeting of the Full Planning Commission was held on 5th April, 2005. However, the issue of fiscal health of States was not discussed.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Private Sector in Infrastructure Sector

444. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Planning Commission had decided to prepare a discussion paper on improving regulatory mechanism and setting up new regulators where they do not exist but are needed;

(b) if so, whether the Prime Minister has urged the Planning Commission to prepare such a paper, as the Prime Minister is of the view that a proper regulatory regime would unable greater participation of the private sector, especially in infrastructure sector; and

(c) if so, whether Planning Commission has already started discussing and preparing the paper for a regulatory regime?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) to (c) Pursuant to the NCMP and the directions of the Prime Minister, Planning Commission is preparing a discussion paper for improving the regulatory regime to enable greater investment, particularly from the private sector, on a competitive basis. The proposed paper would also be discussed with stakeholders and experts with a view to evolving consensus.